

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /087 W

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R 311217Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8568

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD GH

SUBJ: EXPORT RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

REFS: (A) STATE 146681 (B) ACCRA 1192, 2/28/74

FOLLOWING RESPONSES TO NUMBERED QUESTIONS CONTAINED IN REF A:

3.B. NATURE OF MEASURES -

(1) EXPORT AUTHORIZATIONS - NO NEW REGULATIONS WITHIN LAST FIVE YEARS. EXPORT PERMIT REQUIRED FOR MOST ITEMS LEAVING GHANA, IN FORCE PRIOR TO 1971.

(2) EXPORT TAXES OR FEES -

EXPORT DUTY RATES --

- COCOA - DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ESTABLISHED FOB VALUE PER TON AND CEDIS 739 (CEDI 1.00 EQUALS DOLS .87)

- KOLA NUT - 10 PESEWAS PER 20 LBS OR LESS (100 PESEWAS TO ONE CEDI)

- LUMBER - 5 PERCENT

- LOGS - TEN PERCENT

- GOLD - CEDI 3.00 PER FINE TORY OUNCE FOR EVERY OUNCE OVER 100,000

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(3) QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS - EMBARGO ON EXPORT OF FERROUS SCRAP, AND UNTREATED HIDES AND SKINS. EXPORT OF FOODSTUFFS (CURRENTLY COPRA AND GROUNDNUTS) AND VARIOUS RAW MATERIALS NEEDED FOR LOCAL INDUSTRY PROHIBITED FROM TIME TO TIME WHEN GOVERNMENT FEELS THERE IS SHORTAGE OF THESE ITEMS.

(4) STATE MONOPOLIES RESPONSIBLE FOR MARKETING ABROAD (DIAMONDS, MANGANESE, COCOA) GENERALLY ANXIOUS TO EXPORT WHAT NOT NEEDED LOCALLY TO SECURE BADLY NEEDED FOREIGN EXCHANGE. MISMANAGEMENT, HOWEVER, OFTEN PROBLEM (SEE REF B). IN 1974 TIMBER MARKETING BOARD GAVE TIMBER MERCHANTS RIGHT TO NEGOTIATE SALE OF TIMBER ABROAD WITHOUT ITS PRIOR APPROVAL.

C. OF LEVIES MENTIONED IN 3.B. (2), ONLY EXPORT DUTY ON GOLD, INSTITUTED IN 1973, POSTDATES 1971. RATES ON TIMBER EXPORTS CHANGED FROM SPECIFIC AND AD VALOREM IN 1973. EMBARGOES ON SCRAP IRON, HIDES AND SKINS IMPOSED 1973. THOSE ON COPRA AND GROUNDNUTS IN EFFECT SINCE 1974.

D. DURATION - INDEFINITE.

E. REASON FOR INTRODUCTION OF EXPORT CONTROL MEASURE:

(1) MAINTAIN DOMESTIC SUPPLIES IN CASE OF SHORTAGE, AND
(3) PROTECT AND ENCOURAGE INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING - LOCAL SUPPLY FERROUS SCRAP LIMITED. MAJORITY USED BY GOVERNMENT-OWNED TEMA STEELWORKS WHICH PRODUCES STEEL BARS. GOG WANTS TO BUILD UP INDUSTRY TO REDUCE IMPORTS AND CONSERVE FOREIGN EXCHANGE, COPRA AND GROUNDNUTS NEEDED FOR LOCAL OIL MILLS. GOG OFFICIAL STATES EMBARGO ON EXPORT UNTREATED SKINS AND HIDES TO PROTECT SMALL LOCAL TANNING INDUSTRY.

(7) INCREASE EXPORT EARNINGS OR FISCAL RECEIPTS - GOLD EXPORT LEVY OF CEDI 2.50 PER EACH OUNCE BEYOND 100,000 IMPOSED IN 1973 TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL REVENUE FOR GOVERNMENT'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, ACCORDING TO GOG PUBLICATION - ECONOMIC MEASURES FOR FY 1973/74. IN BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR FY 1974/75 WAS STATED LEVY RAISED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO CEDI 3.00 BECAUSE "PRICE OF GOLD CONTINUES TO BE APPRECIABLY HIGH."

F. EFFECT ON TRADE

(1) AND (2) NEGLIGIBLE. GHANA HAS NOT TRADITIONALLY BEEN MAJOR SUPPLIER EITHER TO U.S. OR ELSEWHERE OF EMBARGOED ITEMS.

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